



GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes – February 19, 2019

Call to Order. Chair Brill called the meeting of the General Services Committee to order at 8:00 A.M., Tuesday, February 19, 2019 in Conference Room N-1, Rock County Courthouse East.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Brill, Zajac, Rashkin, Potter and Brien.

Committee Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Present: Josh Smith, County Administrator; Brent Sutherland, Facilities Management Director; Jon Furseth, Facilities Superintendent; Nick Osborne and Randy Terronez, Assistants to the County Administrator; Dave Froeber, Facilities Superintendent.

Others Present: Brian Zobel, UW Colleges – Southwest; County Board Chair Russ Podzilni; Nate Jackson, Janesville Gazette; and Brad Utter, Global Security.

Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Brien moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Rashkin. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation. None.

Approval of Minutes – February 5, 2019. Supervisor Brien moved approval of the minutes of February 5, 2019 as presented, second by Supervisor Rashkin. ADOPTED.

Transfer. None.

Resolutions and Committee Action.

Amending the Contract with Global Security Services at the Courthouse.

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this ____ day of _____ 2018, does hereby approve and authorize amending the total contract cost with Global Security Services of Davenport, Iowa, to \$261,817.72 for armed security services at the Courthouse screening station, starting April 1, 2019.”

Supervisor Rashkin moved for discussion on the above resolution, second by Supervisor Zajac.

Mr. Sutherland said he reached out to the four Wisconsin counties that do not have armed security services. Three of the counties' decision was cost driven. One county did not respond. A survey was sent out to 156 Courthouse staff. The question asked was 'Would you feel more secure if the contracted security guards at the Courthouse were armed with handguns?' 82 employees responded with the results being 64% yes and 35% no. Mr. Sutherland said Kate Luster, Human Services Director, requested the Human Services Department be included in the survey as many Human Services employees spend a lot of time at the Courthouse. NBC15 and Janesville Gazette did stories on this issue. These stories should have sparked community feedback. Mr. Sutherland sent data to the committee on best practices. The recommendation for armed security follows best practices. Supervisor Potter said he felt the employee survey question was not worded well and he would have liked a question similar to this posed to the public. Supervisor Rashkin posed a question on his Facebook page on Feb. 6th asking 'Do you support armed security at the Courthouse?' He said there was 193 votes with 70% yes and 30% no. Mr. Utter expressed his concern on the hesitation of the committee.

Supervisor Rashkin withdrew his motion, Supervisor Zajac withdrew his second. MOTION WITHDRAWN.

Chair Brill and the committee requested more input from the public, Human Services employees and Judges/courts. They requested better wording on any future surveys.

Supervisor Rashkin moved to table this resolution indefinitely, second by Supervisor Potter. TABLED.

Updates and Possible Action.

Courthouse Security Phase 2 & 3. Mr. Sutherland said construction is on track for timeline and costs. He is working on two change orders. One is a credit. JP Cullen is working on a price to open the front side of the first floor elevators. Formal change orders will be presented to the committee once the final numbers are in. Mr. Sutherland is very pleased with JP Cullen and the work thus far. He invited any of the committee members to contact him if they are interested in viewing the progress of the construction.

Communications, Announcements and Information. Chair Brill said he received several complaints about UW-Rock's parking lots and sidewalks not being salted and cleared after the recent snow/ice storms. Mr. Sutherland said he was aware of the issue. The recent ice storms proved to be very challenging all around. Chair Brill said the other complaint he received was about the unloading zone or lack thereof at UW-Rock. Mr. Sutherland will look into this.

Adjournment. Supervisor Rashkin moved adjournment at 8:29 A.M., second by Supervisor Brien. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey VanZandt
Human Resources Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.